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WISCONSIN Farm Reporter

- Dairy
- Crops
- Livestock

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March 3, 1982

WISCONSIN FARM HIGHLIGHTS

- February Farm Prices
- 1982 Prospective Plantings Report
- Spotlight — Marathon County
- January Dairy Cold Storage Stocks

DAIRY UPDATE

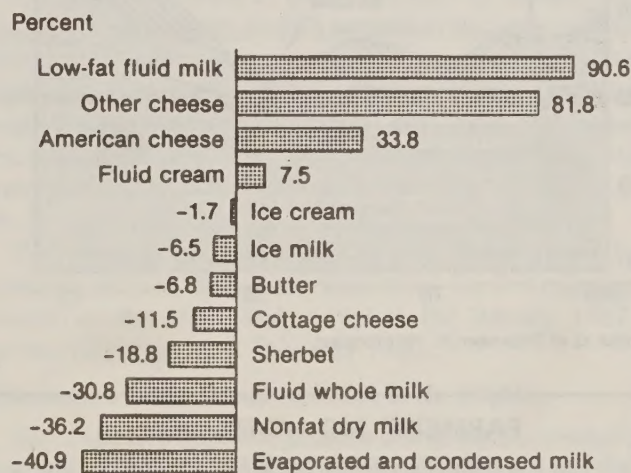
PER CAPITA CONSUMPTION OF DAIRY PRODUCTS

Per capita consumption of dairy products has been steadily decreasing in the United States. Cheese has been the bright spot as per capita consumption has more than doubled in the past 20 years. The average American consumes 17.1 pounds of cheese per year. How does this compare to cheese consumption in other countries? Leading the way in cheese consumption is Greece, where in 1980 per capita cheese consumption was 40.5 pounds. Greece is followed closely by France where 1980 per capita consumption was 38.6 pounds.

Per capita butter consumption in the U.S. in 1980 was 4.1 pounds. Most other developed nations consume much more butter than does the United States. Average butter consumption in Canada is 9.7 pounds. The leading consumer of butter is East Germany, where the average East German consumes 39 pounds of butter per year.

Fluid milk consumption is highest in Finland, where the average Finn consumes 538 pounds (250 quarts) per year. Per capita fluid milk consumption in the U.S. is 231 pounds (107 quarts) per year. Following Finland on the list of major fluid milk drinking countries are Norway, Ireland, and New Zealand. Usually countries which have a relatively high milk production per capita also have high dairy product consumption patterns per capita. For a more comprehensive listing of dairy product consumption in selected countries see the accompanying table.

10-Year Change in per Capita Dairy Product Sales, U.S.



Percentage change from 1970 to 1980.

Per Capita Production of Milk and Domestic Disappearance of Dairy Products, Selected Countries, 1980 1/

Country	Production: milk 2/	Disappearance			
		Fluid milk 3/	Butter 4/	Cheese 5/	Nonfat dry milk 6/
	Pounds per capita				
Canada	716	282	9.7	16.5	4.5
Mexico	216	142	0.2	4.8	3.4
United States	581	231	4.1	17.1	3.0
Brazil	185	111	1.7	4.4	3.6
Denmark	2,200	233	23.6	20.2	13.3
France	1,443	243	21.1	38.6	26.3
Germany F. R. (West)	896	164	15.5	28.0	11.2
Ireland	3,207	494	26.7	6.0	6.7
United Kingdom . .	639	303	14.3	12.9	5.3
Finland	1,513	538	27.7	16.6	24.9
Greece	394	146	2.3	40.5	0.7
Norway	1,041	522	11.9	28.1	5.4
Germany Dem. Rep. (East)	1,096	218	39.0	29.5	24.2
Poland	1,047	414	19.3	22.6	3.1
Soviet Union	751	207	11.7	5.8	3.1
Japan	123	79	1.1	1.6	4.5
New Zealand	4,652	447	29.3	19.1	2.7

1/Preliminary. 2/Includes cow's milk and other milk. 3/Whole milk equivalent (fat solids basis) of fluid milk and cream. Excludes identified manufacturing and feed use. 4/Includes anhydrous milkfat and butteroil and ghee. 5/Cured cheeses only. 6/Includes both human and animal feed use.

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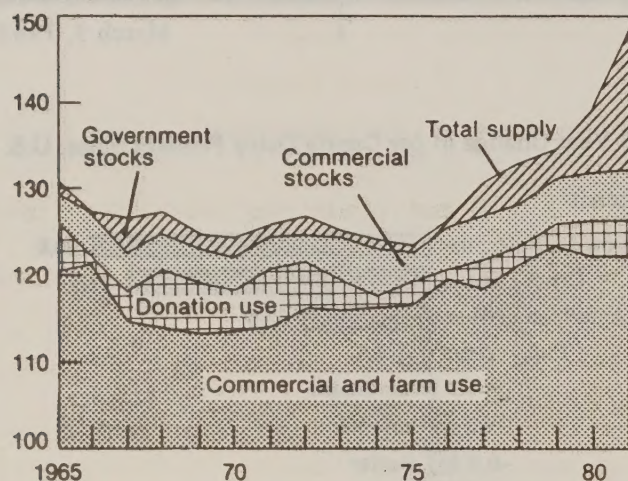
Dairy Cold Storage Stocks

Cold storage stocks of cheese and butter were up 19 and 30 percent, respectively, in the U.S. at the end of January. Total cheese stocks amounted to 717.3 million pounds while butter stocks totaled 433.1 million pounds. Government stocks of American cheese came to 254.8 million pounds, up

207 percent from a year earlier. Government butter stocks, as of January 31, totaled 352.9 million pounds, 21 percent more than year-ago totals. Wisconsin had 211.2 million pounds of American cheese in storage on January 31, 1 percent more than on the same date a year earlier.

Milk Supply, Use, and Stocks

Billion pounds



Stocks as of December 31, 1981 forecast.

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March Highlights

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Cold Storage Stocks of Butter and Cheese

Commodity	Jan. 31, 1980	Jan. 31, 1981	Jan. 31, 1982	Change from last year
1,000 pounds				
UNITED STATES				
Butter	191,033	332,080	433,102	+ 30
Cheese, American	399,753	504,674	632,012	+ 25
Cheese, Swiss	13,920	11,770	11,877	+ 1
Cheese, all other	102,118	85,223	73,435	- 14
Cheese, total	515,791	601,667	717,324	+ 19
WISCONSIN				
Butter	24,749	36,434	47,418	+ 30
Cheese, American	213,830	209,837	211,171	+ 1
GOVERNMENT STOCKS*				
Butter	162,389	290,590	352,897	+ 21
Cheese, American	6,622	82,870	254,770	+ 207

*Included in above totals.

SPOTLIGHT — MARATHON COUNTY

Marathon County, located in north central Wisconsin, is the state's premier dairy county. Dairying contributed \$130.8 million to Marathon's 1980 cash receipts, which represented 77 percent of total agricultural cash receipts. With 85,900 dairy cows, Marathon County ranks first in the state and fifth nationally in milk cow numbers. With the average Marathon County cow producing an average of 12,400 pounds of milk, the county was responsible for producing 1 billion, 65 million pounds — nearly 5 percent of the state's production. There is a total of 2,139 dairy herds in the county with 718 herds shipping Grade A milk while the remaining 1,421 are shipping manufacturing milk.

Marathon County cheese plants produced 71.6 million pounds of cheese in 1980, which placed it seventh among Wisconsin's premier cheese producing counties. Marathon plants cranked out 56.1 million pounds of American cheese, which represented 78 percent of the county's cheese output.

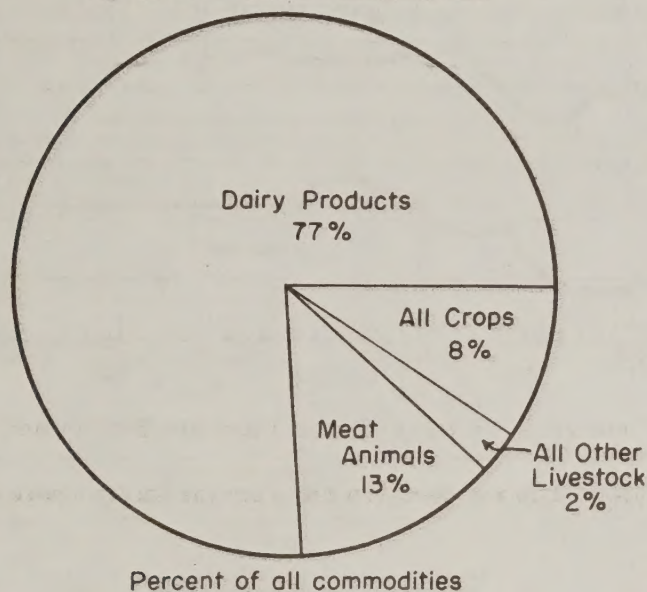
Livestock and livestock products were responsible for 92 percent of total cash receipts in 1980, up slightly from the 91 percent derived from livestock and livestock products in 1973. Marketings of meat animals contributed 13 percent of the farm income during 1980 with cattle and calves contributing the greatest share. About 2 percent of the county's cash receipts came from poultry and eggs, and hogs and pigs provided an additional 2 percent.

Of the farm income from crops in 1980, specialty crops contributed 5 percent, vegetables contributed 2 percent, and field crops contributed 1 percent. Forest products contributed most of the income from the specialty crop category. Potatoes accounted for most of the income from vegetables. Hay is a major field crop in the county and during 1980 Marathon ranked second in other hay production and seventeenth in alfalfa production.

Marathon County's total cash receipts have more than doubled since 1973. With its strong dairy base, Marathon's 1980 agricultural cash receipts amounted to \$169.9 million. During 1980 Marathon County ranked third in the state in farm receipts, trailing only Dane and Dodge counties.

MARATHON COUNTY

Agricultural Cash Receipts, 1980



February 1 Prospective Plantings

Based on a survey of planting intentions as of February 1, Wisconsin growers are expected to plant 4.45 million acres of corn in 1982. This would be equal to 1981's planted acreage, but up 250,000 acres from 1980. Soybean growers are expected to plant 400,000 acres of soybeans, 20,000 more than in 1981. According to the survey, a total of 1.18 million acres of oats will be planted in the state in 1982. This would be 60,000 acres more than the 1.12 million acres planted in 1981. Wisconsin farmers indicated they may harvest 4 million acres of hay during 1982, 400,000 acres more than 1981's total of 3.6 million acres.

Nationally, U.S. farmers indicate they will plant 84.7 million acres of corn in 1982. This is 582,000 acres more than 1981's total of 84.15 million acres. U.S. soybean growers are expected to plant 69.5 million acres of soybeans in 1982, 2 percent more than 1981.

Actual 1982 plantings may vary from those indicated because of the 1982 farm program, shifts in commodity prices, weather, and price and availability of production inputs.

Prospective Planted Acreage, February 1, 1982

Crop	1980	1981	Ind. 1982	1982/1981
Thousand acres				
WISCONSIN				
Corn, all	4,200	4,450	4,450	100
Oats	1,120	1,120	1,180	105
Spring wheat . . .	25	30	32	107
Barley	27	33	37	112
Soybeans	335	380	400	105
Hay, all	3,900	3,600	4,000	111
Tobacco, all	12.9	13.4	11.6	87
UNITED STATES				
Corn, all	88,047	84,153	84,735	100.7
Oats	13,377	13,646	14,705	107.8
Spring wheat . . .	17,492	17,071	17,097	100.2
Barley	8,339	9,741	9,991	102.6
Soybeans	70,037	68,000	69,535	102.3
Hay, all	59,362	60,212	61,619	102.3
Tobacco, all	920.52	966.02	904.00	93.6

SOIL EROSION — A CONTINUING PROBLEM

Even if farmland is effectively protected from excessive conversion to nonfarm uses, nature will still pose a formidable challenge. A current USDA appraisal of soil and water-conservation needs places soil erosion at or near the top of priority problems.

On about a third of the nation's cropland, the soil is being eroded faster than nature can replace it. If allowed to continue unchecked, erosion will eventually lower crop yields and increase the need for fertilizer.

FARM PRICES

U.S. Prices Received Index Edges Upward

The February index of prices received by farmers increased 2 points from January to 243 percent of its January-December 1967 base. Contributing to the increased index number were higher prices received for steers, heifers, calves, slaughter cows, hogs, lambs, turkeys, eggs, oats, and alfalfa and other hay. Price decreases for sheep, wheat, corn, barley, and soybeans were partially offsetting. Milk prices in the U.S. remained at the January 1982 level of \$13.90 per hundredweight.

The index of prices paid by farmers for commodities and services, interest, taxes and wage rates for February was 312 percent of the 1967 base, equal to the January 1982 index but up 12 points from February 1981.

Wisconsin's Prices Received Index Is Up Slightly

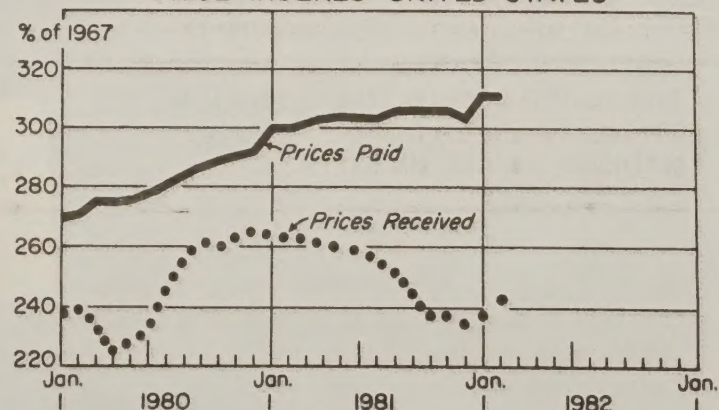
The February index of prices received by Wisconsin farmers was 282 percent of the 1967 base, up 3 points from last month's index but down 10 points from the February 1981 index of 292. Contributing to the upturn in the index were higher prices received for beef cattle, slaughter cows, steers, heifers, hogs, lambs, eggs, oats, soybeans, and alfalfa and other hay.

The February index of prices paid was 327 percent of the 1967 base, up 1 point from last month and up 23 points from February 1981.

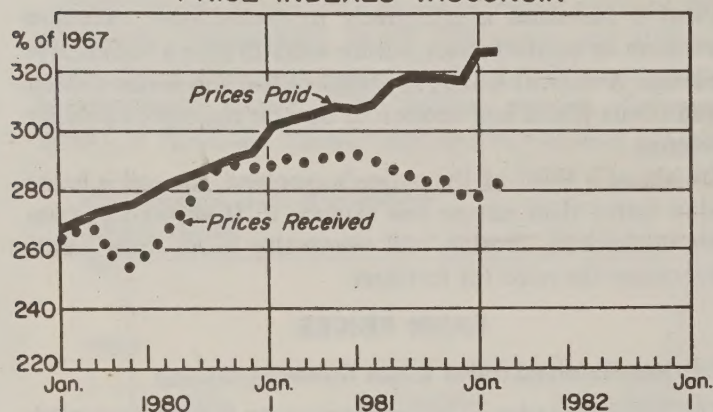
February Milk-Feed Ratio

Wisconsin's milk-feed ratio (pounds of concentrate ration equal in value to 1 pound of whole milk) averaged 1.45 for February, down 1 point from the January ratio of 1.46. A slight decrease in the price farmers received for milk was responsible for the decrease in the ratio. The most favorable milk-feed ratio is found in Florida where the February index averaged 1.85.

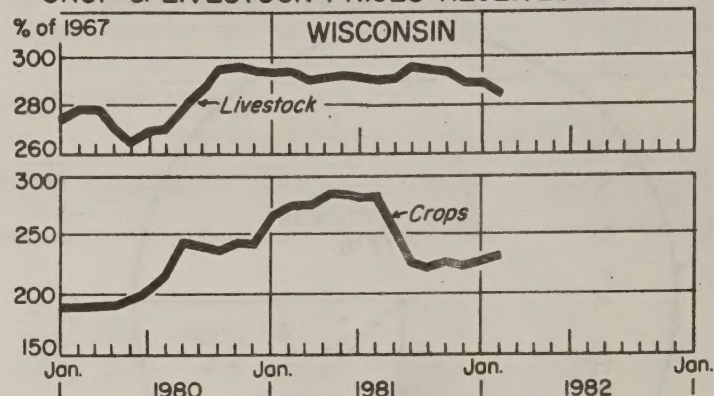
PRICE INDEXES-UNITED STATES



PRICE INDEXES-WISCONSIN



CROP & LIVESTOCK PRICES RECEIVED INDEXES



Commodity	Unit	Wisconsin			United States		
		Month of Feb. 1981	Jan. 15, 1982	Feb. 15, 1982	Month of Feb. 1981	Month of Jan. 1982	Feb. 15, 1982
PRICES RECEIVED:		Dollars			Dollars		
Milk cows	Head	1,220.00	1,070.00	6/	1,230.00	1,150.00	6/
Steers and heifers	Cwt.	57.50	52.40 2/	55.80	62.30	58.30	60.30
Slaughter cows	Cwt.	45.10	37.40 2/	38.30	45.00	36.90	38.30
Calves 1/	Cwt.	97.70	87.20 2/	87.10	70.60	57.10	59.50
Hogs	Cwt.	41.00	42.50 2/	47.00	41.30	43.40	48.20
Sheep	Cwt.	20.50	17.00	16.50	29.00	25.10	23.70
Lambs	Cwt.	54.00	50.00	54.00	55.40	50.40	52.30
Turkeys	Lb.	.420	.300	.290	.389	.326	.330
Eggs	Doz.	.484	.490	.510	.626	.635	.663
Milk, all 2/	Cwt.	13.62	13.50	13.45	14.00	13.90	13.90
Wheat	Bu.	4.07	3.60	3.40	4.17	3.78	3.67
Corn	Bu.	3.05	2.30 2/	2.30	3.22	2.54	2.40
Oats	Bu.	1.73	1.88 2/	1.90	2.01	1.97	1.99
Barley	Bu.	2.80	2.16	2.25	3.05	2.50	2.44
Soybeans	Bu.	6.90	5.80	5.85	7.50	6.13	5.96
Alfalfa hay, baled	Ton	47.00	75.00	82.00	75.40	72.60	74.70
Other hay, baled	Ton	34.50	60.00	62.00	65.70	60.10	61.80
Index 3/ (1967=100)	Pct.	292	279	282	263	241	243
(1977=100) 5/	Pct.	149 7/	143 7/	144	144	132	133
PRICES PAID:							
Soybean meal, 44% protein	Cwt.	14.00	12.40	12.50	15.50	13.70	13.90
Cornmeal	Cwt.	6.50	5.60	5.70	8.41	7.46	7.43
Dairy feed, 16% protein	Ton	197.00	185.00	185.00	201.00	181.00	180.00
Index 4/ (1967=100)	Pct.	304	326	327	300	312	312
(1977=100) 5/	Pct.	146	152	152	148	154	154

1/Includes slaughter "bobs," replacements, and special feds. 2/Average for the month. 3/Index numbers prices received by farmers, unadjusted, all farm products. 4/Index numbers prices paid by farmers for commodities and services, interest, taxes, and wage rates. 5/A change to 1977=100 base period was made beginning with June 1981. The 1967=100 base will continue to be published through June 1982. 6/Milk cow prices are now only published quarterly during the months of January, April, July, and October. 7/Revised.

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